

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: | Paul H. Burmeister, Charles L. Euteneuer, Brian J. Brown, Paul J. Fordenbacher, Anthony C. Vrba |
| Application No.: | 09/427291 |
| Filed: | October 26, 1999 |
| For: | IMPROVED TISSUE SUPPORTING DEVICES |
| Examiner: | Paul Prebille |
| Group Art Unit: | 3774 |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2N-4944-US04

LETTER CONCERNING DRAWINGS

Applicant submits herewith a set of Replacement Drawings. A review of the file indicates a Notice from the Draftsperson, accompanying the Office Action of April 26, 2002, dealing with informalities. The Replacement Drawings do not present any new matter.

The Draftperson's Notice indicated that "The Examiner will require submission of new, corrected drawings when necessary." The Office Action did not indicate that new drawings were required. The issue was not raised in any of the subsequent Office Actions. Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the drawings was waived.

Applicant is submitting the Replacement Drawings in order to ensure that the drawings that appear in the issue patent are of the highest quality.

If any petition is required in order to have these drawings entered and for the application to pass to issuance, or for any other matter associated with this application, Applicant hereby requests that this be considered a petition therefore.

If any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any petition fee, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: February 16, 2012

By: /Jonathan Grad/
Jonathan Grad
Registration No.: 41795

6640 Shady Oak Rd., Suite 400
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-7834
Telephone: (952) 563-3000
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001
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